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*Sanitary report from the State of Rio de Janeiro.—Plague, aphthous fever, isolation hospitals.*

The following facts are taken from the annual report of Dr. Jorge Pinto, director of the board of health of the State of Rio de Janeiro:

When it was officially declared that there was bubonic plague at Santos, he addressed circulars, dated October 19, to the president of the municipal chambers and delegates of the board of health. In this circular he instructed them to take precautions against the spread of the epidemic, visiting repeatedly all dwellings and demanding both therein and in the public streets and squares the utmost cleanliness. He required that garbage should be removed every day and burned, that only the proper number of persons should be lodged in tenement houses, that a supply of pure water should be furnished, that the proper precautions with sewerage should be taken, and the food stuffs should be carefully inspected. He also recommended measures for the rapid destruction of rats.

In regard to aphthous fever he says that there occurred among the beeves in Petropolis a contagious disease that excited suspicion. Adopting the opinion of certain scientific authorities he expresses the opinion that the use of the meat of animals attacked with that disease is not injurious to men, it being sufficient to prohibit the consumption of the parts directly infected and to prohibit the slaughter of such of those animals who have suffered from the disease for a long period. Examining some of the animals in the cattle yards at the abattoir, there was discovered evident symptoms of the disease in a mild form.

As it was possible that the disease might spread, attacking the milch cows at the neighboring stables, he advised the public to use milk only after boiling. He also ordered the immediate and strict isolation of every animal attacked.

He stated that the local application of formal, according to the formula recommended by the department of agriculture of the Argentine Republic, produced excellent results, leading to a rapid cure. Besides the disease did not have here the usual characteristic of spreading on a large scale and assumed a very mild form.

At the isolation hospital at Petropolis there were received 10 patients, of whom 9 were indigent and 1 policeman. There were 7 males and 3 females; 5 were Brazilians, 2 Spaniards, 2 Italians, and 1 German. Of these patients, only 5 had contracted infectious contagious diseases subject to obligatory notification, there being 2 cases of yellow fever, 2 of smallpox, and 1 of measles. The others, which were suspicious cases, were diagnosed as follows at the hospital: One case of generalized eczema, 1 of varicella, 1 of remittent bilious fever, 1 of gastro-intestinal autoinfection, 1 of broncho-pneumonia typica. The patient, suffering from the last of these diseases, died on the day after entering the hospital. Six were cured and 1 was removed to a neighboring hospital, where he also recovered.

The deaths that occurred were caused by yellow fever, 1 by smallpox, and 1 by broncho-pneumonia typica. The 2 yellow-fever patients (man and wife) resided at the Alto de Serra and contracted the disease in Rio de Janeiro. They were accompanied by their little son of 4 years of age, who remained in observation at the hospital, not having been, however, attacked by the disease. At the Nictheroy isolation hospital there were, on July 1, 1899, 2 patients remaining from the previous months. During the year there entered the hospital 411

patients, making with those 2, 413; of these, 327 were cured, 83 died, and 3 were remaining at the end of the year.

There were 351 smallpox patients, of whom 280 were cured, 70 died, and 1 was still remaining in the hospital at the end of the year. There were 13 cases of yellow fever, of which 7 were fatal.

The first bubonic-plague patient entered the hospital on the 6th of last June. During that month 3 more of these patients entered the hospital. Two died and 2 were still undergoing treatment at the end of the year.

There were 19 measles patients, and 45 entered the hospital from various diseases, such as pneumonia, malaria, etc. Of these 45, 41 were cured and the other 4 died.

Dr. Epaninondas, the director of the hospital, had occasion to observe the mildness of smallpox in cases of vaccinated patients, and points out the favorable percentage of mortality among the patients in the hospital, it being only a very small fraction over 20 per cent.

*Bills of health.*

Since last reports the following-named ships have been inspected and received bills of health at this office :

January 15, barkentine *Doria*, American, for Turks Island. January 16, schooner *George V. Jordan*, American, for New York. January 19, steamship *Strabo*, British, for New York; steamship *Dunmore*, British, for New York.

Respectfully,  
The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

W. HAVELBURG,  
*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

CHINA.

*Report from Hongkong.*

HONGKONG, CHINA, *January 28, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith the report of inspection work at this station for the week ended January 26, 1901, with the added information that all shipping permits for cargo to the United States were viséd according to instructions.

Two cases of bubonic plague were reported during the week, both resulting in death. One case of enteric fever was also reported during the week.

Respectfully,  
The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

JOHN W. KERR,  
*Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

CUBA.

*Cienfuegos—A death from yellow fever.*

CIENFUEGOS, CUBA, *March 4, 1901.*

Yellow fever case isolated, contact died to-day.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

BERRY.